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Trade With China

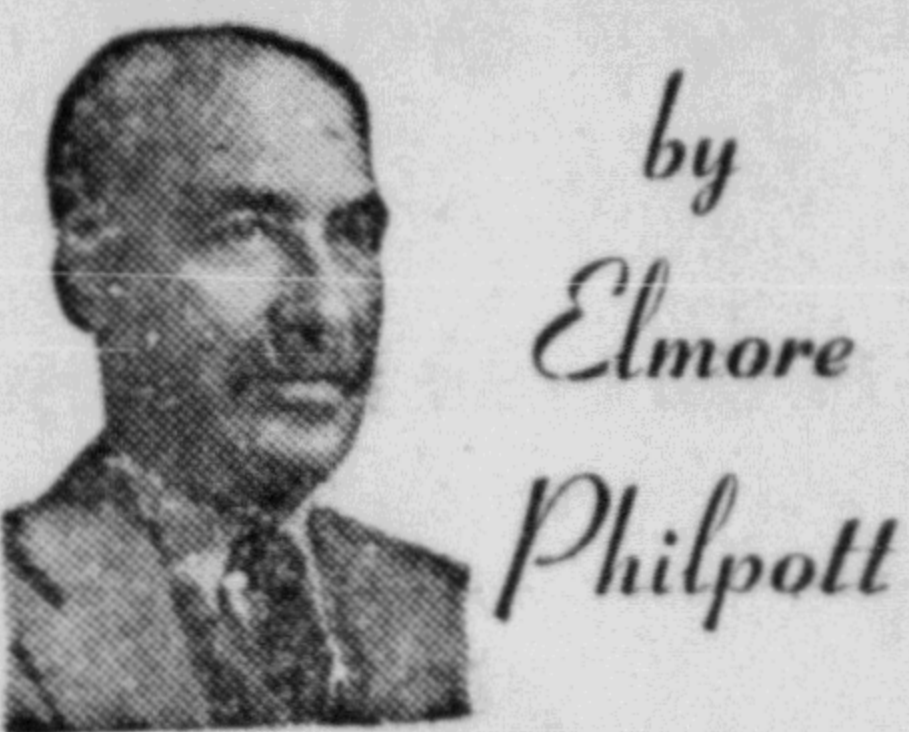
EMOTIONAL factors, perhaps inevitably, seem to enter into any discussion of the question of a possible embargo on trade with China. The ordinary man is apt to feel that the Chinese are "the enemy" and that it is "wrong" to trade with the enemy. Then there are others whose judgment is determined by their hope that a peaceful settlement is just around the corner and can be had if only the United Nations refrain from doing anything that might irritate the Chinese.

But emotions are dangerous guides in such matters. This is a complex problem which calls for cool thinking and a cool assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of any line of action. And, first of all, it seems necessary to get it clear what we are thinking about, because words like "embargo" and "blockade" are being loosely and indiscriminately used to describe three quite distinct things. These are: first, the so-called "selective embargo," the decision not to export to China any of the goods which are now called "strategic materials" and used to be called "contraband of war"; secondly, the complete embargo, the cessation of exports to China of every sort and kind; thirdly, the blockade, the use of naval forces to prevent the sending by sea to China of goods from any source whatever.

The selective embargo is the proposal which is now under consideration at Lake Success. The member states of the United Nations are being invited to stop the shipment to China of arms, ammunition, implements of war, petroleum and items useful in the production of weapons of war.

The view now generally being accepted is that both a general embargo and a naval blockade are policies to be avoided, since they would do far more harm than good; but that the policy of the restricted embargo—the denial so far as possible to China of all overseas supplies of war materials for her troops in Korea—is the one which should be adopted.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

LAY 1800 A DAY

HANOVER, GERMANY.—We were amazed when we visited Germany two years ago to find that, even while the cities lay in ruins, Germany was offering for sale manufactured goods with which no other European country could beat, or easily equal.

There were at that time trade fairs on in Britain and here in Hanover. Our observation was that the German range and quality was quite as good as the British—and the prices were definitely lower.

Now the contrasts are even more striking. Today we visited the great continental fair grounds—and on the eve of the 1951 exhibition they claim here that this fair has already grown greater than the famed Leipzig affair, which, they say here, has gone swiftly downhill since the Russian occupation of Eastern Germany.

We have no way of knowing whether such is quite true. But even my layman's eye can plainly see why the reviving Germany is getting more and more of the world's business.

THEY ARE ON THE job here. They have technical plants as good as any in the world. And they have a very high technical know-how.

But also, they know how to buckle in and work—right down at the level where it counts.

From my hotel window I look out on the main square in this town. A block away is a big luxury hotel, with a famous name. Just a year ago there was only a heap of rubble where that famed hotel again stands—now

several stories high. They desperately needed the space to accommodate the foreign trade buyers coming to the trade fair. Two weeks before last year's opening they started to build. They were actually doing business—two weeks later—on the first two hotel floors.

I AM ASSURED HERE that it is not unusual for a bricklayer to lay 1800 (eighteen hundred) bricks per day—which is about double what trade union restriction would permit in many Western countries.

(In New York a couple of years back, I was investigating this same matter, and the average there was around five hundred per day.)

Maybe what is going up here in Germany is what we call jerry-built, maybe it is pretty shoddy stuff. If so, you can't tell it from looking at it.

THEY TELL ME THAT poverty is still harsh and widespread here. Unemployment stands at about 16 percent of the total working force in some cities in the western zones. As it happened, we had to spend three very-early-morning hours in the railroad station here, waiting to clear our baggage through customs. There were hundreds of people in the crowded waiting room who had obviously spent most of the night there.

I first thought they were rotters who liked to sit up all night drinking beer. But on talking to some of them, I found that some were refugees from the Russian zones—some were travellers who could not afford a room or hotel.

ONE NOTABLE DIFFERENCE IN Germany between the 1949 and 1951, scenes is that far fewer Allied occupation troops are in evidence.

It is no military secret that there are more, not fewer, Allied soldiers here than there were in 1949. Hence I can only conclude that they are on more of an "alert" footing. That is, more of them must be out on the military front lines, for they just aren't around the towns in such numbers. The British troops you do see look very young, and a little lonely.

TWO YEARS AGO, THE GERMAN people seemed to me to be in a most confused and bewil-

dered state of mind. They don't impress me that way now. Two years ago, women glared at my window—shopping wife. Few smile at foreigners now—but none glare.

I have a hunch that the more politically highly educated Germans are laughing up their sleeves at the predicament of the Western Allies. They are letting us stew in our own juice. Are the Germans the prisoners of the Allies? Or are the Allies the prisoners of the Germans? The Germans know perfectly

well that the Western Allies must not only keep Western Germany strong and safe in the Western camp. But they also know that the Allies have to keep on coming across with the funds to keep them strong and prosperous here. They are playing a (so far) polite game of mild blackmail.

Later in this series, I shall discuss the political situation here—for we are here on the very eve of the Lower Saxony election, which will show whether a Second Nazi rise is or is not a possibility.

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Is Buried at Egg Island

Lawrence Dupuis, 38-year-old lighthouse keeper at Egg Island, who died of self-inflicted shot wounds last week, was buried Monday on the little reef island 240 miles south of Prince Rupert.

The lighthouse tender, CGS Alexander McKenzie, Capt. Norman McKay, made the report to the Department of Transport office here following the tender's return from Egg Island at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

J. Souter, from the Seal Cove staff, remains on the island as temporary lightkeeper, pending decision of headquarters at Ottawa whether or not Mrs. Elizabeth Rife will be allowed to become lightkeeper as she requested.

Mrs. Rife and her 15-year-old son are also on the island.

Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Darby, of Bella Bella, officiated at the burial. They were transported by the Alexander McKenzie.

Hotel arrivals

(Prince Rupert)
Mr. and Mrs. Brice and family and Mr. and Mrs. Hattrick and family, Ketchikan; Mr. and Mrs. F. Gaudry, I. Rinehart, R. E. Mawhinney, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Burgess, Owen Humphreys, R. G. Nyberg, Roy Watson, Edgar Bell, R. Angus, F. J. Hardy, O. Sholten and F. Veislucce, Vancouver; R. Parsons, W. J. Billmore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Trudgeon, Olof Hanson and Mrs. P. Carey and family, city; W. J. Pitre, Sooke; R. L. O'Brien, Kimberley; Mrs. F. Stafford, Pico, Cal.; Bill Zioklikouits, Prince George; J. McKergow, Vernon; G. A. Beare, Edmonton; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Stevens, Skidegate; P. Coffey, Denver, Colorado; H. D. Richardson, Winnipeg; Mr. and Mrs. R. Forrester, Flin Flon, Man.; A. M. Anderson, Calgary.

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